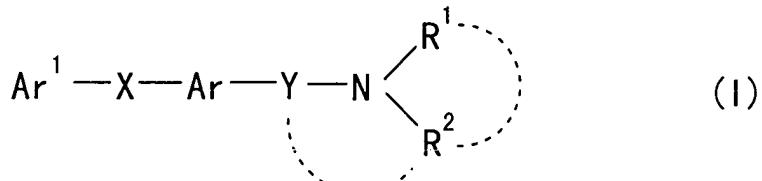


A² 17. (AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition, which comprises a melanin-concentrating hormone antagonist in combination with at least one species selected from the group consisting of an agent for treating diabetes, an agent for treating hypertension and an agent for treating arteriosclerosis and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

39. (NEW) A method for antagonizing melanin-concentrating hormone in a mammal in need thereof, comprising administering a compound of the formula :



A³ wherein Ar¹ is a cyclic group which may have substituents;
 X is a spacer having a main chain of 1 to 6 atoms;
 Y is a bond or a spacer having a main chain of 1 to 6 atoms;
 Ar is a monocyclic aromatic ring which may be condensed with a 4 to 8 membered non-aromatic ring, and may have further substituents;
 R¹ and R² are independently hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group which may have substituents; R¹ and R², together with the adjacent nitrogen atom, may form a nitrogen-containing hetero ring which may have substituents; R² may form a spiro ring together with Ar; or R², together with the adjacent nitrogen atom and Y, may form a nitrogen-containing hetero ring which may have substituents; or a salt thereof to a mammal.

40. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as defined in claim 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

41. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as defined in claim 19, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

42. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as defined in claim 22 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

43. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as defined in claim 25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

44. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as defined in claim 26 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

45. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as defined in claim 28 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.